

Derbyshire County Council Countryside Service

The **Archaeological Way** has been developed through Limestone Journeys Landscape Partnership in order to make this rich, fascinating landscape more accessible. Many thanks go to the European Regional Development Fund, Heritage Lottery Fund and Local Transport Plan for funding the project. For more information about this, or any other of our Greenways, please contact our information team at Tapton Lock Visitor Centre.

Contact us for information on:

- Discovering the Chesterfield and Phoenix Greenways.
- Guided walks and events in the area and throughout the county.
- Volunteer opportunities.
- Links to countryside teams across Derbyshire.

North Area Countryside Service

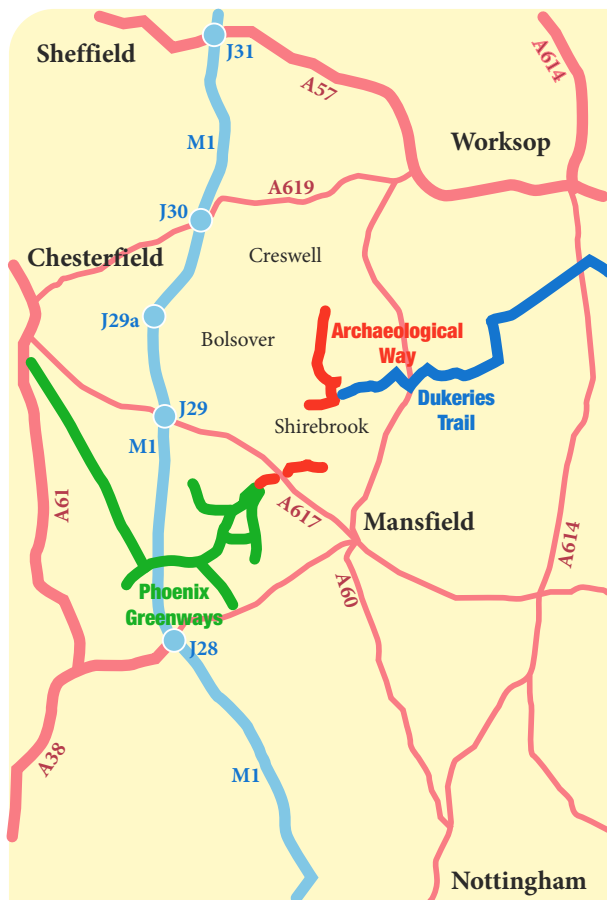
Tapton Lock Visitor Centre,
Lockoford Lane, Chesterfield,
Derbyshire S41 7JB.
Tel: 01629 533020.

Email: countrysideservice@derbyshire.gov.uk

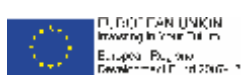
Web: www.derbyshire.gov.uk/countryside

Find us on Facebook
and Twitter

www.facebook.com/derbyshirecountryside



The Archaeological Way has been funded by:



The Archaeological Way is also supported by:

Forestry Commission, Groundwork Creswell, The Land Trust, Langwith Parish Council, Nottinghamshire County Council, Pleasley Parish Council and Shirebrook Town Council.

For this leaflet in other formats please contact **Call Derbyshire** on **01629 533190**.

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Discover the Archaeological Way



DERBYSHIRE
County Council
Improving life for local people

www.derbyshire.gov.uk/countryside



Art Along the Way

SCULPTURE TRAIL

The redevelopment of the **Archaeological Way** has inspired a fantastic selection of new community art projects, many of which now form the new **Archaeological Way Sculpture Trail** at Poulter Country Park.

- 1 **Dragonfly** - Celebrating the area's natural history, if you look closely at the wings you will see small dragonflies made by pupils of Langwith Bassett Community Primary and Whaley Thorns Primary Schools. Artist: Phil Neal, installed summer 2008.
- 2 **Scimitar Flower** - Created to highlight the wildflower meadows which feature in the Country Park, the shape imitates a scimitar tooth found locally. Artist: Ewan Allinson, installed autumn 2015.
- 3 **Industrial Fossils** - Black ferns unfurl to symbolise the coal that built Langwith Colliery. At their base you'll find 'fossils' of items that are important to the community. Artist: David Mayne, installed spring 2015.
- 4 **Top of the World** - Invoking the early Stone Age, when woolly rhinos and hyenas roamed the area, the piece is named after a local woman's memory of her grandfather. Artist: Ewan Allinson, installed autumn 2015.
- 5 **Flint Flower** - Echoes the shape of a flint tool found locally. Artist: Ewan Allinson, installed autumn 2015.

- 6 **Commemoration** - Remembers those lost in two separate, tragic accidents in the First and Second World Wars. Commissioned by Langwith-Whaley Thorns Heritage Association, installed summer 2015.

- 7 **Bridging the Gap** - Symbolising the surrounding landscape and how we interact with it, it features the poem 'Start Your Journey' by Liz Cashdan. Artist: David Mayne, installed spring 2015.

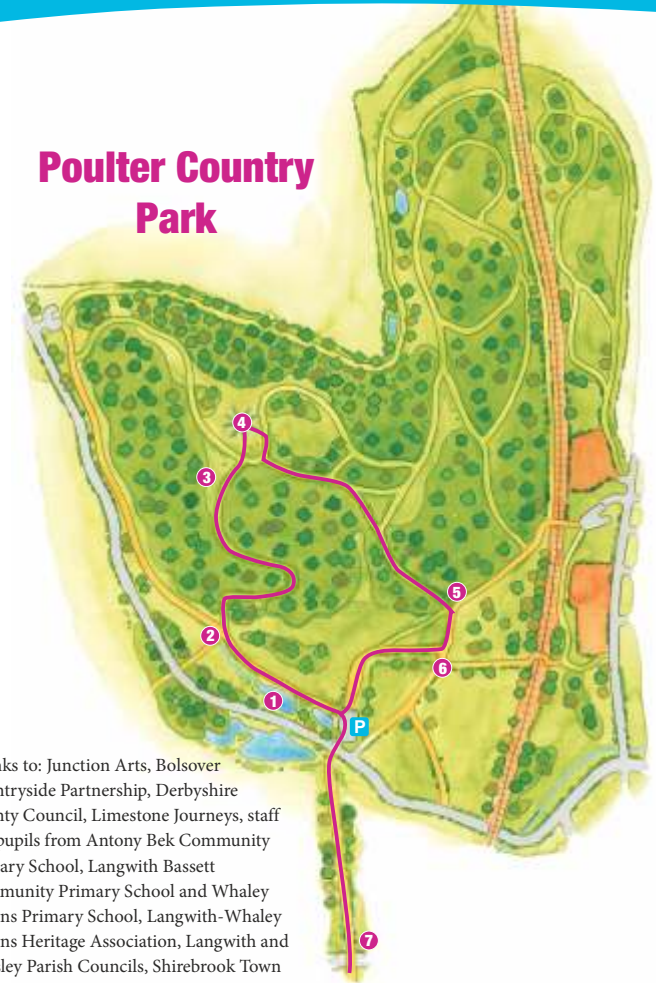
Other pieces along the Archaeological Way

Drawing the Way - This iconic mural in the village of Pleasley was designed and painted in summer 2013 by Urban Canvas, pupils from Anthony Bek Community Primary School and volunteers.

Welcome Mosaic - Located in the Shirebrook Christian Centre Garden, this large and colourful mosaic, celebrating the natural world, was created by Junction Arts and community members. Sharp-eyed visitors may also spot mosaic cut-outs of wildlife concealed around the garden. Artist: Lesley Robinson, installed in 2014.

Pictured from left: Dragonfly, Industrial Fossils, Top of the World, Drawing the Way, Welcome Mosaic.

Poulter Country Park



Thanks to: Junction Arts, Bolsover Countryside Partnership, Derbyshire County Council, Limestone Journeys, staff and pupils from Antony Bek Community Primary School, Langwith Bassett Community Primary School and Whaley Thorns Primary School, Langwith-Whaley Thorns Heritage Association, Langwith and Pleasley Parish Councils, Shirebrook Town Council, Shirebrook Christian Centre and Alison Loydall.



Places to Visit

Pictured from top: the gorge at Creswell Craggs, Hardwick Hall, Bolsover Castle, former pit buildings at Pleasley Pit Country Park, Clumber Park and a fishing pond at Shirebrook Wood.

When you are exploring the **Archaeological Way** you will find much more in the area for visitors to enjoy. Using our Greenways and public rights of way, you don't even need a car to discover the history, parks and heritage close by.

Topping the list of places to visit has to be **Creswell Craggs, Hardwick Hall and Bolsover Castle**. Each has their own tale to tell and offer unique insights into the past. You can also explore our mining heritage and the legacy of country parks we now enjoy.

Creswell Craggs-Home of the Ice Age hunter. Try a cave tour and discover what the Craggs were like during the last Ice Age, find out who was here and why? Or take a look around the special exhibitions showcasing some of the rarest Ice Age finds from the caves. www.creswell-craggs.org.uk

Bolsover Castle-This fairy-tale Stuart mansion was designed to entertain and impress, and five hundred years on, continues to do so. Wander along the Wall Walk and enjoy the views, see the Riding School brought to life with displays of Cavalier Horsemanship and take an interactive tour of the Little Castle. www.english-heritage.org.uk

Hardwick Hall-An Elizabethan masterpiece created for the formidable Bess of Hardwick. Visit both the Hall and the Old Hall, wander through the spectacular gardens, or get your boots on and explore the ancient parkland. Pick up a Tracker pack from the Gatehouse and entertain the whole family. www.nationaltrust.org.uk

Pleasley Pit and Country Park-Whether you're interested in the amazing wildlife of our nature reserve or the fascinating industrial heritage of the mining industry, you'll find it here. The Pleasley Pit Trust has regular open days and Pleasley Pit Nature Study Group lead guided walks around the park. From the park you can join the Phoenix Greenways, over 20 miles of trails and quiet lanes taking you through a once industrial landscape that has been transformed, like a Phoenix rising from the ashes, into one that's now brilliant for people and wildlife.

www.derbyshire.gov.uk/countryside

Pleasley Vale-Affectionately known locally by outdoor enthusiasts as 'Little Matlock', the mills in this limestone gorge date back to the 1800s. See where Vyella, the world's first branded fabric, was manufactured for many years. From here, you can enjoy strolling through the Forestry Commission woodland of Pleasley Park where the spring wildflowers are a delight.

www.pleasleyvalebusinesspark.co.uk

Poulter Country Park-Another legacy of our mining past. The country park's nature reserve has an amazing display of Cowslips in the spring. Wander up to the viewpoint and listen for the skylarks. Follow the sculpture trail and enjoy art in the park.

www.derbyshire.gov.uk/countryside

Welbeck Estate-Situated between Creswell Craggs and Clumber Park, Welbeck Estate is one of four neighbouring Estates that forms the area known as the Dukeries. The Estate is home to the Harley Gallery, School of Artisan Food, Dukeries Garden Centre and the Welbeck Farm Shop, where you'll find the delicious Stichelton Cheese. www.welbeck.co.uk

Sherwood Forest and Clumber Park-Both these iconic destinations are about an hour's bike ride away. Why not visit the Major Oak, learn more about Robin Hood or take a trip to the ancestral estate of the Dukes of Newcastle, at Clumber, whilst you're in the neighbourhood! www.experiencenottinghamshire.com



Local Visitor Information Centres can help you plan your visit and find you places to stay

Chesterfield Visitor Information Centre,
Tel: 01246 345 777 or 345 778.
Fax: 01246 345 770.
Email: tourism@chesterfield.gov.uk
Web: www.visitchesterfield.info

Ashfield District Council,
Heritage and Tourism,
Tel: 01623 450000.
Web: www.ashfield-dc.gov.uk

Bolsover Tourism Officer
Tel: 01246 242324.
Web: www.bolsover.gov.uk

Nottingham Tourism Centre,
Tel: 0844 477 5678. Fax: 0115 876 2990.
Email: tourist.information@nottinghamcity.gov.uk
Web: www.experiencenottinghamshire.com

Sheffield Visitor Services,
Tel: 0114 221 1900.
Email: visitor@marketingsheffield.org
Web: www.welcometosheffield.co.uk

Worksop Tourist Information Centre,
Tel: 01909 501148.
Email: worksop.tourist@bassetlaw.gov.uk
Web: www.bassetlaw.gov.uk



Left: Chesterfield Spire.

Top right: the Peter Fidler Reserve at Bolsover.

Bottom right: the Major Oak at Edwinstowe.

Where to Stay

The Archaeological Way



THEARCHAEOLOGICALWAY

Why The Archaeological Way?

Follow **The Archaeological Way** and you'll be walking in the footsteps of history! You are now in an ancient landscape of Stone Age hunting camps, Romano-British Settlements and Medieval Deer Parks. Nearby you'll find Elizabethan Houses and a castle-cum-pleasure palace. Discover the beginnings of the Industrial Revolution and the rise of the Derbyshire Nottinghamshire Coalfields. From pre-history to the present day there is a wealth of archaeology for you to discover.

The **Archaeological Way** programme is aiming to develop an 11 mile (18.5km) multi-user trail between Pleasley Pit Country Park and Creswell Crags, to provide a key missing section of the Derbyshire - Nottinghamshire trails network. Phase 1, from South Shirebrook to Poulter Country Park, was opened to the public in spring 2015.

A Changing Limestone Landscape

The underlying geology, of Permian Magnesian Limestone, helps to create the landscape you see today. Rich grasslands, farmland and woodlands are crossed by small streams and rivers, which have carved gorges and vales, such as Creswell Crags and Pleasley Vale. You can also see limestone in traditional farm buildings, houses and landmarks.

The Limestone Journeys Landscape Partnership has helped to improve this landscape, working with landowners and community groups. Can you see where they have planted new hedgerows and rebuilt drystone walls?

Download the new **Archaeological Way** app to your smartphone, listen to stories from people along the Way and learn more about the history and heritage of this fascinating area.



- The Archaeological Way** —
- The Phoenix Greenways** —
- The Robin Hood Way** —
- The Dukeries Trail** —
- Information boards** ⓘ
- Car park** P
- Railway Station** ≡

Exploring Greenways

The **Archaeological Way** is part of a larger network of trails, including the Phoenix Greenways, Dukeries Trail and Robin Hood Way. Link these trails, using public rights of way and you can spend an hour, a day or even a week exploring the treasures that the Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire borders have to offer.

Easy Access-Greenways are generally level and surfaced. Gradients are kept to a minimum and you'll find benches for resting. Entrance structures are designed to discourage motor bikes, but you can get through with most wheelchairs and mobility scooters.

Enjoy Safe Greenways

Share With Care-Please be considerate of other users you meet. Cyclists please slow down and warn of your approach. Be aware that maintenance and agricultural vehicles sometimes use these routes.

Be Seen!-Wear appropriate clothing for your activity and the weather.

Highway Crossings and Road Safety-Please be careful at road crossings.



Bluebell woods

Discovering the landscape on foot

Limestone farmland

Explore the local countryside by bike